

going to and present continuous: Plans, intentions and arrangements





## **Presentation**

## going to

You can use be + going to + infinitive to talk about intentions or plans for the future:

I'm going to stay single.

I'm never going to get married.

### Affirmative and negative

I		'm / 'm not		
Не	e / She / It	's / isn't	going to	get married.
Yo	ou / We / They	're / aren't		

### Question

	(When)	Am	I	going to	invite Harry?
		ls	he/she/it		
		Are	you / we / they		

#### **Present continuous**

You can use the present continuous to talk about arrangements in the future:

Paula and I are getting married on 1st May.

I'm meeting Harry tomorrow night at eight.

See also Units 8 and 9.

## Present continuous or going to?

You can use either form to talk about plans and arrangements in the future:

We're playing tennis tomorrow.

We're going to play tennis tomorrow.

When you use the present continuous to talk about the future you normally use a specific future time expression:

We're playing tennis tomorrow.

If you don't use a future time expression (or the time is not obvious), the present continuous refers to the present time:

*We're playing tennis tomorrow.* (= future)

We're playing tennis. (= now at the moment of speaking)

### go and come

You normally use the verbs *go* and *come* in the present continuous, not with *going to*:

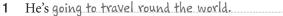
Who's coming to your wedding? (not Who's going to come to your wedding?)

Who's going to the wedding? (not Who's going to go to the wedding?)

## 1 Look at the pictures and write sentences. Use going to and the phrases in the box.

become a firefighter buy a Ferrari get married grow her own food have a long holiday start his diet next week travel round the world try something exciting







3 They\_\_\_\_\_



**5** He



7 She .....



**2** He.



4 She



**6** He



8 She

# 2 Tick the sentences where you can use the present continuous without changing the future meaning.

- 1 We're going to speak to everyone in about an hour. ✓
- 2 I'm going to ask him to call you back. X
- 3 Lucinda isn't going to arrive until three.
- 4 Is she going to explain how to answer these questions?
- 5 I'm going to tidy my room. I promise I will.
- 6 The children are going to start school at the end of August.
- 7 Everyone is going to meet in the town square at midnight.
- 8 They're going to rebuild that old house.
- **9** Are you going to tell her how you really feel? She needs to know.
- 10 The whole family is going to spend their next holiday on the beach.

## 3 Complete these sentences about your plans and intentions for the future.

1	Next week I'm going to	
2	Next month I'm going to	

3 Next year I'm going to